

**THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL  
BLUE GRASS, IOWA                      MAY 4 2026**

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of May 2026, in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Mississippi Street, Blue Grass, Iowa, pursuant to law, with Mayor Brad Schutte presiding, with a Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of reflection.

Council present: Hermann, Smith, Blok and Brandenburg. Absent was member Bowman.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Smith moved to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded by Brandenburg. Roll call: Smith-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Blok-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

**MAYORAL COMMENTS:** Mayor Schutte read aloud the Mayoral Comments.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** From those in attendance, there were none.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Blok moved to approve the Consent as presented, seconded by Smith.

1. **April 20, 2026 minutes**
2. **Resolution 2026-17 ref: authorizing a payment from the Tax Increment Reserve**
3. **Payment of claims**

Roll call: Blok-aye, Smith-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

**ENGINEER REPORT:**

4. **Report:** Mayor Schutte presented the March 2026 Engineer report prepared by City Engineer Mike Janecek.
5. **Street Assessments:** Mayor Schutte referred to the Engineer's report reporting that the various street projects were out for bid with a public bid opening date of May 26, 2026 and a June 1, 2026 bid award date.

**BUILDING COMMISSIONER:**

6. **Report:** Building Commissioner Jim Meyrer presented the April 2026 Building Commissioner report.
7. **Dangerous Sidewalks:** Discussion was held on various sidewalks throughout the Towne & Country Manor Subdivision, whereas Iowa American Water Company's curb boxes are protruding causing a tripping hazard. Brandenburg recommended using the Tax Increment Finance Reserve monies to pay for their replacement since the City has, in the past, used those reserves for other various street and storm sewer repairs/replacement. Council expressed concerns about setting a precedent if they start to replace and/or repair sidewalks as they would be setting a precedent; therefore, it was the consensus that it was the resident's responsibility to repair and/or replace.

**HOBBY FARM PERMIT:**

8. **Permit:** Meyrer reported that he had received a Hobby Farm application from Schuyler Bowman and after a complete inspection, Mr. Bowman meets the Permit requirements; therefore, he recommends approval. Brandenburg moved to approve Mr. Bowman's Hobby Farm Permit for a one-year period, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Blok-aye, Hermann-aye and Smith-aye. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

9. **Report:** Public Works Director Jim Meyrer presented the April 2026 Public Works Department report.
10. **Status of drainage project:** Meyrer reported that the project was complete; however, it has since then been reported that there were other areas in need of repair/replacement displaying photos. It was the consensus of the Council to extend the drainage project by adding these two areas as an extension of the

original project; therefore, Smith moved to extend the drainage project by adding these two areas using the same contractor, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Smith-aye, Blok-aye, Hermann-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

**11. Cleaning fluid from City Streets:** Meyrer had previously reported that Republic Services trucks had leaked hydraulic fluid all over the streets throughout the City which was reported immediately to Republic Services who then filed a claim with their insurance company reporting that nothing has been resolved.

Mayor Schutte reported that the Clerk has since then made contact reading aloud an email from Claims Manager Jim Heikkinen who agreed to obtain a quote from ProLine Striping to clean the streets and once the streets were cleaned, agree on the settlement payment.

**NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):**

**12. Nuisance Abatement(s):** Mayor Schutte reported that there were no new nuisance abatements; however, he has asked that the Chief and Public Works Director drive around town and address any nuisance abatements.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

**13. Strategic Planning & Goal Setting:** Mayor Schutte reported that the Clerk had received an email from Angela Kersten, Scott County Secondary Roads Department in regards to a proposed Joint Jurisdiction Road Resurfacing Project for FY 2031 estimating approximately \$900,000.00 with the City's share being estimated at \$450,000.00. He expressed serious financial concerns as well as the City Clerk; therefore, it was the consensus that the Street Committee meet with Scott County to further discuss. Past Mayor Paul Barnes expressed concerns on the County claiming that half of East 130<sup>th</sup> Street was the City's as he recalls it being 100% a County road; therefore, Mayor Schutte asked that Meyrer get with the City Engineer and research it further to determine whether the City owns half of the road.

**COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** Hermann expressed concerns on residents not putting their garbage/recycling carts in the street as he is worried that eventually the garbage trucks will damage the City's curbs. The Clerk reported that every Sunday, she posts on the City's Facebook page, reminding residents whether it is a garbage only day or both garbage and recycling day and add the verbiage that if you have a curb to place the carts in the street. Hermann asked that the Clerk start with the extra verbiage statement first.

Resident Mark Wakefield inquired about the Police Department working overtime to do extra patrol on traffic. Mayor Schutte replied that he was working with the Department on the specifics.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Brandenburg made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye, Smith-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

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Mayor Brad Schutte

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Attest: Ann M. Schmidt, CMC, City Clerk/Financial Officer

**CLAIMS:**

BABE'S TERMITE	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	285.00
CASEY'S	VEH OPER	827.42
CENTRAL STATES H & W FUND	HEALTH INS	13,648.00
CENTURYLINK	FAX	161.74
COLUMN SOFTWARE	ADVERT & PUBLICATIONS	645.62
DOWNING, ROBERT	TRAINING	27.85
IA AMERICAN WATER	UTILITIES	405.29
IA ONE CALL	LOCATES	18.90
MARTIN & WHITACRE SURVEYORS	ENGINEERING SVS	2,506.67
MCCULLOUGH, WM.	LEGAL SVS	1,312.50
MED-TECH RESOURCE	EQUIP OPER	978.64
MENARDS	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	572.19
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	UTILITIES	2,633.46
NAPA	EQUIP OPER	180.90
OFFICE MACHINE CONSULT	EQUIP OPER	72.94
RNJ DISTRIB.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	34.60
R-O GUNS	EQUIP OPER	750.00
UNIFORM DEN	UNIFORM ALLOW	9.95
VERIZON	TELEPH/FAX/INTERNET	799.62
WEX BANK	VEH OPER	1,504.55
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>27,375.84</b>

**TOTAL FUNDS:**

GENERAL	13,659.85
ROAD USE	67.99
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	13,648.00
<b>TOTAL FUNDS:</b>	<b>27,375.84</b>